

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the pending claims as indicated below.

- 1 1. (Twice Amended.) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel
3 extending from the housing, said channel having a surface that is substantially parallel to,
4 and opposed from, said source-contact surface; and
5 a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing
6 surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the
7 source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and said the channel form an aperture
8 for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned.

- 1 2. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a portion of the
2 vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit scanning of a
3 source document in an vertical position.

- 1 3. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a the front panel
2 of the housing includes an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture opening.

- 1 4. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap includes
2 an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture opening.

- 1 5. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap
2 includes a slot.

- 1 6. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the source-
2 backing contact surface of the flap includes a clip arranged to receive a portion of a
3 source document to be scanned.

1 7. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the
2 housing further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the channel when
3 an operator closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially vertical surface
4 of the housing.

1 8. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the
2 platen has an upper edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with
3 a front panel of the housing and a distal edge and wherein the channel is adjacent to the
4 lower edge of the platen.

1 9. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the
2 channel has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that
3 extends at least to the distal edge of the platen.

1 10. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap
2 is coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially
3 separated detent positions.

1 11. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the
3 source-backing contact surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1 12. (Previously Amended.) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot
2 is positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on
3 the channel wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a portion of a
4 platen.

1 13. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the housing is
2 configured to extend the channel from the vertical source-contact surface when an
3 operator adjusts the source-backing contact surface in relation to the vertical source-
4 contact surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture opening.

1 14. (Twice Amended.) The assembly of claim 2 †, wherein the width of a
2 first end of the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over that
3 portion of the channel that extends beyond the platen.

1 15. (Originally Submitted.) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the
2 channel is coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of friction

1 16. (Twice Amended.) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 means for housing an optical scanner optically scanning image data; and
3 means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of a
4 the source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the means for optically
5 scanning without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a second edge
6 of said source along a channel means as the source is received in the aperture and during
7 a scanning operation, wherein said channel means extends from said means for housing
8 and comprises a source retaining means substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said
9 optical scanner.

1 17. (Twice Amended.) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the source
2 retaining means of said channel means extends vertically from a base of said channel
3 means for forming an aperture comprises a channel.

1 18. (Previously Amended.) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the
2 means for forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

1 19. (Previously Amended.) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the
2 means for forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a
3 housing and a second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1 20. (Twice Amended.) A method for saving space on a desktop,
2 comprising:
3 providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a substantially
4 vertical source-contact surface with a channel extending from the housing, the channel
5 having a surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact
6 surface, the vertical source-contact surface including a transparent platen portion,
7 wherein the channel is adjacent to a lower edge of the transparent platen portion; and
8 providing a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-
9 backing surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing,
10 wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel form an
11 aperture for receiving ~~an edge of~~ a source to be scanned.

1 21. (Twice Amended.) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the source-
3 contact surface, the source-backing surface flap, and the channel such that the source is
4 supported along a second edge by the channel.

1 22. (Once Amended.) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is applied to a non-scan
3 surface of the source and the scan surface of the source closely contacts the transparent
4 platen portion.

1 23. (Previously Amended.) The method of claim 22, further
2 comprising: enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1 24. (Originally Submitted.) The method of claim 23, further
2 comprising: spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is removed
3 from the non-scan surface of the source.

1 25. (Once Amended.) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
2 removing the source from the aperture opening.

1 26. (Once Amended.) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;
3 a channel extending from the housing, said channel having a surface that is
4 substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact surface; and
5 a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface
6 substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-
7 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel form an aperture for
8 receiving an edge of a source to be scanned without necessitating relative movement
9 between the flap and the housing.

1 27. (Previously Submitted.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the
2 housing contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the
3 inclined surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1 28. (Previously Submitted.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface arranged to
3 increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is substantially
4 perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1 29. (Previously Submitted.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes a slot.

1 30. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on said
3 the channel and wherein information to be scanned from the source document is aligned
4 with at least a portion of a the platen.

1 31. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said the channel when the
3 source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1 32. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said the
2 channel has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that
3 extends at least to a distal edge of a platen.

1 33. (Previously Submitted.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 is coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-
3 separated detent positions.

1 34. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing is
2 configured to extend said the channel from the source-contact surface when an operator
3 adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to increase the
4 width of the aperture opening.

1 35. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width of
2 said the channel at a first end of said the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing
3 increases over that portion of said the channel that extends beyond a the platen.

1 36. (Once Amended.) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said the
2 channel is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1 37. (Once Amended.) A method for arranging a source in a scanner
2 comprising:
3 inserting a leading edge of the a source into an aperture formed by a channel
4 having a surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the
5 scanner such that a surface of the source having information thereon that is desired to be
6 imaged by the scanner is adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane;
7 and
8 positionally adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is
9 aligned with the sensor.